



12 June 1972

Dear General Walters:

It must have been obvious how much I enjoyed having lunch with you in your office. I must admit that I have been somewhat disheartened with the future for military intelligence. However, your comments and enthusiasm were enough to give me a measure of optimism. With individuals such as yourself supporting us, the future may not be as dismal as it appeared. Since you are the senior army intelligence officer on active duty, you are in a peculiar position to influence many of our junior officers.

As usual, the courtesies and assistance your people provided me were outstanding. I was particularly appreciative of the frank discussions in areas of interest to me in my new assignment. I have had the pleasure of working with representatives of your agency for more than 25 years, and they have always been most helpful to me. I also consider myself fortunate in having many close personal friends in the organization.

It was apparent that you are enjoying your assignment, and that after the "listening" period is over, you will make a sizable impact in your area of responsibility. Let me also add that the enthusiasm you have injected into your job has already been contagious. If the comments passed to me are any criteria, you have in a short period instilled not only respect for your abilities but a definite liking for you as an individual as well. Let me just state that I, and many others in military intelligence, am most happy that you are in your present position. While lip service is being paid to the adage that "as we draw down our military forces we must increase intelligence," this is not reflected in actions I

have seen. My hope is that for once we will be able to recognize errors we have made following previous large military involvement and subsequent drawdowns.

I will be in Hawaii by 26 June, and in any visit to that area I would be most honored to become involved in your "care and feeding."

Again, my thanks for a most stimulating day.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Orlando", with a long diagonal line extending upwards and to the right from the end of the signature.

ORLANDO C. EPP  
Brigadier General, USA

LTG Vernon A. Walters  
Deputy Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C. 20505